

under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(c) for a three-month extension of time.

In response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2000, Paper No. 19, please amend this application as follows:

In the Claims

Cancel claims 40 and 42.

Please amend claims 13, 27, 29, 33, 34, 38 and 44, as follows:

13. (3X Amended) An indwelling catheter comprising:

an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough;
and

an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;

wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises a polymer in which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is intimately mixed [in intimate contact], the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent being present in a concentration of between .1% and 5% of the steroidal agent in the polymer (w/w).

27. (3X Amended) A method of modulating tissue encapsulation of an indwelling catheter comprising implanting the indwelling catheter into a patient, wherein the indwelling catheter comprises:

an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and

an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;

wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises an overcoating of a polymer in which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is intimately mixed[incorporated] at a concentration of between .1% and 5% of the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent in the polymer (w/w).

29. (3X Amended) A method of modulating degradation of an indwelling catheter comprising implanting the indwelling catheter into a patient, wherein the indwelling catheter comprises:

an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and

an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;

wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises a polymer intimately mixed [in intimate contact] with a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent and wherein the solid weight of the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is between .1% and 5% of the total solid combined weight of the polymer and the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

33. (3X Amended) A method of making an indwelling catheter comprising:

providing an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough;

wherein the tissue-contacting surface comprises an overcoat of a polymer intimately mixed with[in which] a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent [is incorporated] at a concentration of between .1% and 5% of the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent in the polymer (w/w); and

coupling an external fitting to the proximal end of the elongate body.

34. (2X Amended) The method of claim 33 wherein the step of providing an elongate body comprises intimately mixing the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent with the polymer in a solvent and applying the mixture to the elongate body to form a tissue-contacting surface.



AMENDED CLAIMS

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Sub
F1
E1
13. An indwelling catheter comprising:
an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-
contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and
an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;
wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises a
polymer in which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is intimately mixed,
the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent being present in a concentration of
between .1% and 5% of the steroidal agent in the polymer (w/w).

Sub
F2
E2
14. The indwelling catheter of claim 13 further comprising one or more
helical coils formed in the elongate body between the proximal and distal
ends.

15. The indwelling catheter of claim 13 wherein the polymer is selected
from the group of polyurethanes, silicones, polyamides, polyimides,
polycarbonates, polyethers, polyesters, polyvinyl aromatics,
polytetrafluoroethylenes, polyolefins, acrylic polymers or copolymers, vinyl
halide polymers or copolymers, polyvinyl ethers, polyvinyl esters, polyvinyl
ketones, polyvinylidene halides, polyacrylonitriles, copolymers of vinyl
monomers with each other and olefins, and combinations thereof.

16. The indwelling catheter of claim 15 wherein the polymer is selected
from the group of polyurethanes, silicones, or combinations thereof.

17. The indwelling catheter of claim 13 wherein the anti-inflammatory
agent is a glucocorticosteroid.

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E2
18. The indwelling catheter of claim 17 wherein the glucocorticosteroid is selected from the group of cortisol, cortisone, fludrocortisone, Prednisone, Prednisolone, 6 α -methylprednisolone, triamcinolone, betamethasone, dexamethasone, beclomethasone, aclomethasone, amcinonide, clobetasol, clocortolone, derivatives thereof, and salts thereof.

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Sub E3
19. The indwelling catheter of claim 18 wherein the glucocorticosteroid is dexamethasone, a derivative thereof, or a salt thereof.

E3
24. The indwelling catheter of claim 13 wherein the tissue-contacting surface further includes heparin.

Sub E4 F4
27. A method of modulating tissue encapsulation of an indwelling catheter comprising implanting the indwelling catheter into a patient, wherein the indwelling catheter comprises:

an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and

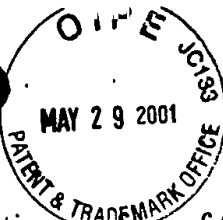
an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;

wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises an overcoating of a polymer in which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is intimately mixed at a concentration of between .1% and 5% of the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent in the polymer (w/w).

Sub E5
29. A method of modulating degradation of an indwelling catheter comprising implanting the indwelling catheter into a patient, wherein the indwelling catheter comprises:

an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and

an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;



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wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises a polymer intimately mixed with a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent and wherein the solid weight of the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is between .1% and 5% of the total solid combined weight of the polymer and the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

33. A method of making an indwelling catheter comprising:
providing an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; wherein the tissue-contacting surface comprises an overcoat of a polymer intimately mixed with a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent [is incorporated] at a concentration of between .1% and 5% of the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent in the polymer (w/w); and
coupling an external fitting to the proximal end of the elongate body.

34. The method of claim 33 wherein the step of providing an elongate body comprises intimately mixing the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent with the polymer in a solvent and applying the mixture to the elongate body to form a tissue-contacting surface.

36. The catheter of Claim 13, wherein the polymer is a non-porous polymer.

37. The catheter of Claim 13, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is between .1% and 1% of the total solid combined weight of the polymer and the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

38. The catheter of Claim 37, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is selected from the group consisting of dexamethasone and beclomethasone.

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E8
39. The catheter of Claim 13, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is impregnated into the polymer of the tissue-contacting surface.

E9 Sub F8
41. The method of Claim 29, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is impregnated into the polymer of the tissue-contacting surface.

E10 Sub F9
43. The method of Claim 29, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is between .1% and 1% of the total solid combined weight of the polymer and the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

44. (he) method of Claim 43, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is selected from the group consisting of dexamethasone and beclomethasone.
